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APPLICATION OF

VIRGINIA ELECTRIC AND POWER COMPANY

CASE NO. PUE000741

**For a certificate of public convenience
and necessity under the Utility Facilities
Act to develop, construct, own and operate
an intrastate natural gas pipeline**

HEARING EXAMINER'S RULING

March 16, 2001

On December 15, 2000, Virginia Electric and Power Company ("Virginia Power" or "the Company") filed an application for a certificate of public convenience and necessity to develop, construct, own, and operate a 14-mile lateral natural gas pipeline and related facilities for the receipt and delivery of natural gas needed as fuel for new natural gas-fired generation facilities and other existing facilities at Virginia Power's Possum Point Power Station in Prince William County, Virginia. By order dated January 25, 2001, the Commission docketed the matter, scheduled the application for hearing, directed the Company to provide public notice of the application, established dates for the filing of pleadings and prepared testimony and exhibits, and assigned the matter to a hearing examiner.

By letter filed with the Commission on March 13, 2001, Sean T. Connaughton, Chairman of the Prince William Board of County Supervisors ("Board"), requested an extension of the comment period beyond the established March 23, 2001, filing date. The Board also requested a local public hearing. A copy of the Board's Resolution regarding these requests was attached to the letter.

After consideration, I find the requests should be granted, in part. I find that the comment period should be extended until Friday, April 6, 2001. Two local hearings were scheduled by Ruling dated March 2, 2001, for the purpose of receiving public comments on the Company's applications. I find these hearings should provide sufficient opportunity for public comment and should remain as docketed. Accordingly,

IT IS DIRECTED:

(1) That the filing date for submitting written comments to the Commission is hereby extended to Friday, April 6, 2001. Such comments should be addressed to the Clerk of the Commission, c/o Document Control Center, P.O. Box 2118, Richmond, Virginia 23218-2118, and should reference Case No. PUE000741; and

(2) That the two local hearings to receive public comments, currently scheduled for 2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. on April 9, 2001, in the Board Chambers of the James J. McCoart Administration Building, 1 County Complex Court, Prince William, Virginia, shall remain as docketed.

Michael D. Thomas
Hearing Examiner